

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claim 1 (canceled).

Claim 2 (currently amended): The body fluid absorbent article according to claim 1, wherein

said liquid impermeable range includes a body fluid receiving portion defined as a range in which the excreted body fluid is received first within said body fluid absorbent portion.

Claim 3 (currently amended): The body fluid absorbent article according to claim 1 or 2, comprising:

a body fluid diffusion layer which covers said liquid impermeable range and at least a part of which protrudes outside the liquid impermeable range.

Claim 4 (currently amended): ~~[[The]] A~~ body fluid absorbent article according to claim 1, wherein

an absorbent is provided in a body fluid absorbent portion and includes a body fluid absorption and holding function and a shrinkage function when contact with a body fluid;

an absorption control layer is provided on said absorbent, and a liquid impermeable range of which is reduced whenever a body fluid is excreted;

said absorbent includes a fixed portion fixed to the article, and a free portion that is not fixed to the article, and

said absorption control layer is reduced from a fixed portion side of said absorbent toward a free portion side thereof whenever the body fluid is excreted.

Claim 5 (original): The body fluid absorbent article according to claim 4, wherein said absorbent is elongated and includes said fixed portion on one end thereof, and

said absorption control layer is a cylindrical member including the liquid impermeable range continuous in a circumferential direction and a longitudinal direction, said absorbent being inserted into an inner cavity of said absorption control layer.

Claim 6 (original): The body fluid absorbent article according to claim 4 or 5, wherein

said absorption control layer is configured so as not to block at least a contact between a fixed portion-side end of the free portion of said absorbent and the body fluid.

Claim 7 (previously presented): The body fluid absorbent article according to claim 4, comprising:

a body fluid diffusion layer that extends at least from a body fluid receiving portion defined as a range in which the excreted body fluid is received first within said body fluid absorbent portion to a fixed portion-side end of the free portion of said absorbent.

Claim 8 (currently amended): The body fluid absorbent article according to claim ~~[[3]]~~4, comprising:

a body fluid storage portion that is provided in a body fluid receiving portion defined as a range in which the excreted body fluid is received first within said body fluid absorbent portion, and that contacts with the body fluid diffusion layer.

Claim 9 (currently amended): The body fluid absorbent article according to claim ~~[[3]]~~4, wherein

said body fluid diffusion layer consists of a fiber assembly sheet having a Klemm water absorption according to "Testing Method for Water Absorption of Paper and Paperboard by Klemm Method" specified in JIS P 8141, which absorption is 100 millimeters or more in ten minutes.

Claim 10 (currently amended): The body fluid absorbent article according to claim ~~[[1]]~~⁴, comprising:

- a liquid permeable surface layer provided on a side facing a body skin; and
- a leak-proof layer provided on a side apart from the body skin, wherein said body fluid absorbent portion is provided between the surface layer and the leak-proof layer, and
- said liquid impermeable range includes at least the body fluid receiving portion defined as the range in which the excreted body fluid is received first within said body fluid absorbent portion.

Claim 11 (canceled).

Claim 12 (currently amended): ~~[[The]]~~ A body fluid absorbent article ~~according to claim 11~~, wherein

an absorbent is provided in a body fluid absorbent portion and includes a body fluid absorption and holding function and a shrinkage function when contacted with a body fluid;

an absorption control layer is provided on said absorbent, and a liquid impermeable range of which is reduced whenever a body fluid is excreted; and

said absorption control layer is a water soluble film having an absorbent-side surface that is not subjected to a water repellent treatment and an opposite surface to the absorbent-side surface and subjected to the water repellent treatment.

Claim 13 (currently amended): The body fluid absorbent article according to claim ~~[[1]]~~¹², wherein

said absorption cover layer is a liquid impermeable sheet which shrinks by 50% or more in area when being wet.

Claim 14 (currently amended): The body fluid absorbent article according to claim [[1]]12, wherein

said absorption control layer is a liquid impermeable sheet integrated with a shrinkable member that shrinks when in contact with the body fluid.

Claim 15 (currently amended): The body fluid absorbent article according to claim [[1]]12, wherein

said absorption control layer is a liquid permeable sheet which is subjected to a water repellant treatment, and water repellency of which is lost when contacting with the body fluid for a predetermined time or more.

Claim 16 (currently amended): The body fluid absorbent article according to claim [[1]]12, comprising:

a plurality of wall members arranged within said body fluid absorbent portion at predetermined intervals, wherein

said absorbent and said absorption control layer are arranged between the wall members.

Claim 17 (canceled).

Claim 18 (canceled).

Claim 19 (canceled).

Claim 20 (canceled).

Claim 21 (canceled).